

Coast Guard, DOT

§ 12.02-18

matter shall be referred to the Commanding Officer, National Maritime Center, for decision.

[CGFR 65-50, 30 FR 16640, Dec. 30, 1965, as amended by CGD 95-072, 60 FR 50460, Sept. 29, 1995; USCG-1998-4442, 63 FR 52189, Sept. 30, 1998]

§ 12.02-15 Oath requirement.

Applicants for a merchant mariner's document for any rating shall take an oath before an Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, or other official authorized to give such oath, or a commissioned officer of the Coast Guard authorized to administer oaths under 10 U.S.C. 936 or 14 U.S.C. 636, that they will faithfully and honestly perform all the duties required of them by law and carry out all lawful orders of superior officers on shipboard. Such an oath remains binding for all subsequent merchant mariner's documents issued to a person until the document is surrendered to the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection.

[CGD 91-211, 59 FR 49300, Sept. 27, 1994]

§ 12.02-17 Rules for the preparation and issuance of documents.

(a) Upon application of a person for a merchant mariner's document, any required examination will be given as soon as practicable.

(b) Upon determining that the applicant satisfactorily meets all requirements for the document and any endorsements requested, the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, shall issue the appropriate document to the applicant. A merchant mariner's document is valid for a term of 5 years from the date of issuance. Any document which is renewed or reissued prior to its expiration date automatically becomes void upon issuance of the replacement document.

(c) When a seaman applies for a merchant mariner's document, he must:

- (1) Sign the document; and
- (2) Impress his left thumbprint on the document; or
- (3) Impress his right thumbprint on the document if his left thumb is missing.

(d) A seaman's social security number is placed on his document and is his official identification number for record purposes.

(e) After July 31, 1998, an applicant for a merchant mariner's document who will be serving on a seagoing vessel of 200 GRT or more shall provide a document issued by a qualified medical practitioner attesting the applicant's medical fitness to perform the functions for which the document is issued.

(f) An applicant for a certificate of service or efficiency who has been duly examined and refused a certificate by an Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection may come before the same Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection for reexamination at any time after the date of the initial examination. The Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection sets the time of reexamination based on the applicant's performance on the initial examination. However, the maximum waiting period after the initial failure will be 30 days, and the maximum waiting period after a second or subsequent failure will be 90 days.

(g) An applicant who has been examined and refused a certificate by an Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection may not make application for examination to any other Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection until 30 days after the applicant's last failure of an examination or reexamination. However, an applicant may apply for examination by another Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection before the expiration of the 30 day period if sanctioned by the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection who refused the applicant.

[CGFR 65-50, 30 FR 16640, Dec. 30, 1965, as amended by CGD 72-81R, 37 FR 10834, May 31, 1972; 44 FR 21021, Apr. 9, 1979; CGD 91-211, 59 FR 49300, Sept. 27, 1994; CGD 95-062, 62 FR 34535, June 26, 1997]

§ 12.02-18 Fees.

(a) The following fees are required for merchant mariner's document activities in this part:

(1) For evaluation for an original document, (does not apply if applicant holds a license or certificate of registry issued under part 10 of this chapter), \$17.

(2) For evaluation for a merchant mariner's document endorsed with a qualified rating:

- (i) For an original merchant mariner's document, \$77.

(ii) For a merchant mariner's document other than original, \$60.

(iii) Where further evaluation is not required, such as when a merchant mariner's document is issued incident to a license transaction, no fee.

(3) For administration of examination, \$40.

(4) For issuance of a document, \$35.

(5) For duplicate of a merchant mariner's document issued in this part where a fee is required in § 12.02-23, \$35.

(6) For a duplicate continuous discharge book, record of sea service, or copies of certificates of discharge, \$10.

(7) For renewal of a merchant mariner's document:

(i) For evaluation for renewal of a merchant mariner's document endorsed with a qualified rating, \$45.

(ii) For evaluation for renewal of a merchant mariner's document when submitted with a license where a renewal evaluation fee already applies, no fee.

(iii) For evaluation for renewal of a merchant mariner's document without qualified rating endorsement, no fee.

(iv) For administration of open-book exercises required by § 12.02-27, \$40.

(v) For administration of MMD open-book exercises when required in addition to license open-book exercises for concurrent renewal of these documents, only the license exercise fee in § 10.109(c)(2) will apply.

(vi) For issuance of a renewal of a merchant mariner's document including those issued for continuity purposes only, \$35.

(b) Unless otherwise directed, the prescribed fee must be paid as follows:

(1) If an evaluation fee, at the time of application.

(2) If an examination fee, prior to taking the first examination section at a Regional Examination Center. For examinations administered at locations other than a Regional Examination Center, the examination fee must be received by the Regional Examination Center at least one week in advance of the scheduled examination date.

(3) If an issuance fee, prior to receiving the document.

(c) Prescribed fees must be paid by one of the following options:

(1) *Mail-in.* Payment by check or money order only, made payable to one of the following:

(i) U.S. Coast Guard;

(ii) U.S. Government;

(iii) U.S. Treasury;

(iv) U.S. Department of Transportation.

Fee payment must be made by check or money order with the applicant's (payor's) social security number included thereon.

(2) *In-person.* Fee payment will be accepted by cash, check, or money order at Coast Guard units where Regional Examination Centers are located. Where an applicant makes payment by cash, payment must be in the exact amount. A check or money order must be payable as specified in paragraph (c)(1) of this section.

(d) The following applies to anyone failing to pay a fee or charge established under this subpart:

(1) Anyone who fails to pay a fee or charge established under this subpart is liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000 for each violation.

(2) The Coast Guard may assess additional charges to anyone to recover collection and enforcement costs associated with delinquent payments of, or failure to pay, a fee. Coast Guard merchant mariner's document services may also be withheld from anyone pending payment of outstanding fees owed to the Coast Guard for services already provided by Regional Examination Centers.

[CGD 91-002, 58 FR 15239, Mar. 19, 1993, as amended by CGD 91-211, 59 FR 49301, Sept. 27, 1994]

§ 12.02-19 Suspension or revocation of documents.

Any certificate of service or of efficiency or merchant mariner's document representing such certificate(s) is subject to suspension or revocation on the same grounds and in the same manner and with like procedure as is provided in the case of suspension or revocation of licenses of officers under the provisions of 46 U.S.C. Chapter 77.

[CGFR 65-50, 30 FR 16640, Dec. 30, 1965, as amended by CGD 95-028, 62 FR 51196, Sept. 30, 1997]